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hypha had curved, and suspensors had developed on opposite sides of the coil (fig. 1). The appearance of the remnants of the wall between the gametangia showed that conjugation had taken place. While investigators have disputed Dr. BLAKESLEE'S results that plus and minus strains are necessary for sexual reproduction, so far as we know the observation of conjugation between two closely approximate parts of the same hypha has not entered into the discussion. This peculiar mode of conjugation was accidentally found in some material grown from spores obtained from J. I. HAMAKER of Randolph-Macon Woman's College of Virginia. The culture was grown on bread moistened with a solution of grape sugar, and zygospore-formation was unusually abundant. Dr. BLAKESLEE in his article in the BOTANICAL GAZETTE of June 1907 admits the possibility that a homothallic race may occur in a species normally heterothallic; and the case just cited substantiates that possibility.—FLORENCE A. MCCORMICK, *The University of Chicago.*

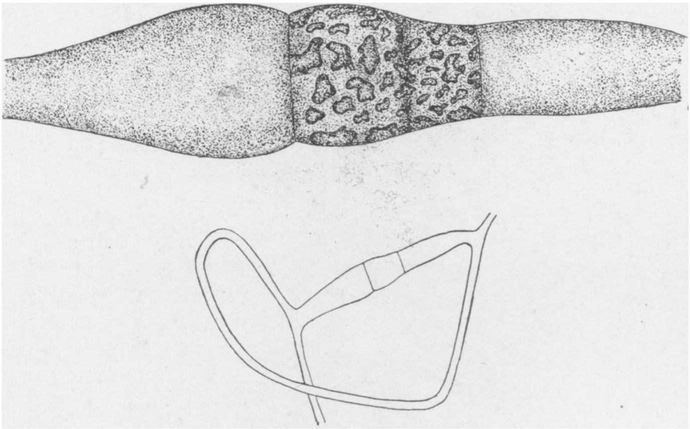

FIG. 1

PISTILLODY OF STAMENS IN HYPERICUM NUDIFLORUM

A plant of *Hypericum nudiflorum* Michx. cultivated at the Arnold Arboretum and in full bloom during the first week of October, while another plant of the same species had almost mature fruits, presented a very good example of pistillody of stamens. The inflorescence and the flowers did not at the first glance show any deviation from the normal except that the regular arrangement of the stamens seemed somewhat disturbed, but a closer examination revealed the presence between the pistil and the stamens of a number of peculiar irregularly shaped bodies representing apparently deformed carpels. These deformed carpels or pistillodes, as they may be called, were present in each flower of the whole plant, which had about eight stems, each terminated by a many-flowered cyme. The number of the pistillodes in each flower varied from three to about ten, differing in size and development. Most of them were boat-shaped, distinctly curved, and with the concave side directed toward the normal pistil; on both margins, except near the base and near the apex, they bore numerous ovules partly hidden in the concavity and partly exposed; on each side, directly below the apex, a yellow oblong spot was noticeable, which apparently represented the rudimentary anther cells, while the variously shaped apex itself usually showed a greenish color like the upper part of the style, and represented apparently the rudimentary stigma. Sometimes two of the pistillodes were more or less united at the base, and in a few cases pistillodes were divided at the apex; in one case I found one part of the divided apex representing a rudimentary anther and the other half a rudimentary stigma. Pistillodes with fertile anthers were not common; in a few cases the dilated but scarcely concave filament bore a few ovules on one side of the filament only and an anther larger than the normal, or the filament was only dilated without ovules. In some of the smaller pistillodes a few of the ovules, particularly toward the apex, were changed into greenish elongated appendages, which usually, by a peculiar bend, still preserved the anatropous character of the normal ovule. This phyllody of ovules is not at all uncommon with exposed ovules. All other parts of the flower (calyx, petals, stamens, except the few deformed ones, and pistils) were perfectly normal in all the flowers.

The teratological facts here described seemed interesting enough to be put on record, particularly as apparently no other similar case has been reported in the genus *Hypericum*. PENZIG[5] records under *Hypericum* only cases of adventive buds, deviation from the ordinary number in the floral whorls, decrease of size in leaves, and one case of apostasis in the calyx. This tends to show that *Hypericum* has little tendency to form abnormalities, and may serve as an excuse for the publication of the present case. Specimens are preserved in the herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum.—ALFRED REHDER, *Arnold Arboretum.*

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[5] Pflanzen-Teratologie **1**:308, 309.